



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

801 Murrell Blvd, East Gwillimbury, ON L9N 0P6

Telephone: 905-478-4242 Fax: 905-478-8642



G.R.O.W.I. - WE GROW WITH RESPECT, OPENNESS, WISDOM, AND LOVE. WE ARE KODIAKS AND WE GROW!

"GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER." PSALM 106:1

OCTOBER 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

October has arrived and we continue to welcome and say goodbye to students at our school. We have begun to settle into the rules and routines of school. Students are beginning to engage in curriculum expectations supported by our learning goals, success criteria and timely descriptive feedback. It is essential to continue to keep communication and support for our children between school and home consistent to ensure success.

In October, we nurture our faith by focusing on the Virtue of Compassion. The definition of compassion is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is hurting, in pain, or has misfortune and is accompanied by a strong desire to help the suffering. Jesus Christ is the greatest example of someone with true compassion. Not only did Jesus have compassion and heal people from physical suffering, he also showed the greatest compassion for mankind when died on the cross for our sins.

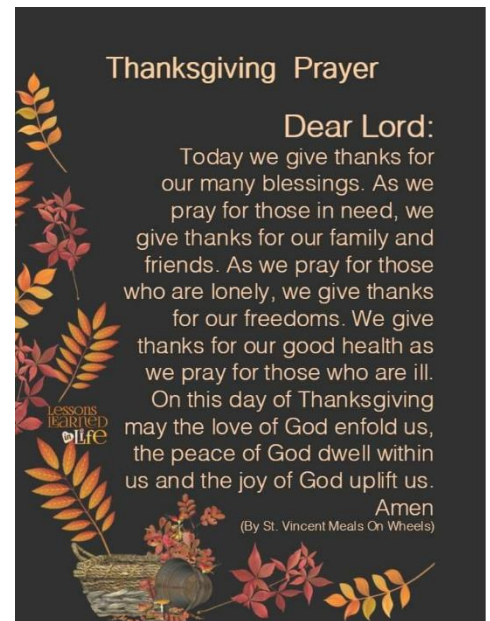
We begin the month of October with school photo day, a great way to capture our memories of this school year. We show our compassion for others by donating food and toiletry items to our Thanksgiving Drive and donate to cancer research through our Terry Fox Fundraiser. We care for the safety and wellbeing of others by practicing our safety policies and procedures during Safety Week September 30-October 4th.

During this time of Thanksgiving, we are reminded of our many blessings. We will celebrate our Thanksgiving school Mass on Thursday, October 10th. During the month of October, we recognize and thank our custodians, teachers, Early Childhood Educators, and bus drivers at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic School for their continued commitment to supporting our children. We look forward to our Thanksgiving Mass on October 10th with Father Roy in our school gym. Parents are welcome to attend. We will have two masses that day. One at 10:45am (K-3) and another at 1:00pm (Grades 4-8).

Thank you for your support and cooperation in working with us to provide a safe and nurturing experience for your child. We hope you have the opportunity to break bread this Thanksgiving with those who are near and dear to your heart.

Yours in Catholic Education,

K. Quan King Thompson

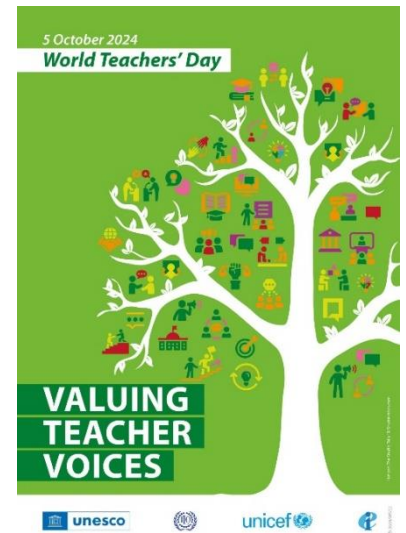


World Teachers' Day ~ October 5

October 5th is World Teachers' Day, a day to celebrate all teachers around the globe. World Teachers' Day represents a significant token of the awareness, understanding and appreciation displayed for the vital contribution that teachers make to education.

The theme this year is – Valuing Teacher Voices. It has been observed all over the world over since 1994 after the UNESCO Recommendation concerning Teachers.

At Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic School, we are blessed with so many wonderful teachers who care for our students as their own. Their commitment and dedication to the children are remarkable and we celebrate them on this day and every day for the tremendous work they do.



Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Appreciation Day



Monday, October 21, 2024 is the 24th Annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day. This day recognizes the commitment, skills, and hard work of Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) and staff who work with young children. On October 21, Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Appreciation Day, we reflect on the significant role childcare workers play in our children's lives and extend our deep appreciation for their skill and dedication. Child care workers and ECEs shape children's emotional, intellectual and social skills. They support families and help children to become positive members of society. Their influence is long-lasting in a child's life. On this day we honour Ms. Hunter, Ms. De Jesus, Ms. Gordon and Ms. Fontana for the work they do at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic School. Thank you!

National Custodian Appreciation Day

On **October 2nd** we recognize National Custodian Appreciation Day. The York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) recognizes and shows appreciation to our caretakers and custodial staff who work tirelessly every day to ensure the smooth operation of our schools and office buildings.

The OLGC community extends a sincere thank you to our dedicated caretakers and custodial staff for their tremendous service and dedication. We at OLGC are blessed to have wonderful custodians, Mr. Guarrasi, Ms. Lavadan, Mr. Pensato and Mr. Lawless who are committed and dedicated to ensuring that our school is clean and safe each and every day. Thank you!



Secondary School Registration

Our York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) secondary schools are excited to welcome new Grade 9 students for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year! On Monday, October 21, families of Grade 8 students will receive a digital registration form to register their child for high school. The deadline to submit the form is Wednesday, December 4. Please note the link to this form is only to be used for YCDSB students who are currently in Grade 8, as there is a different registration process to be followed by non-YCDSB students.

For families with students who are not currently attending a school in our Board but are interested in registering at a YCDSB school, visit www.ycdsb.ca/admissions and register online. For more information on the timeline, please visit https://www.ycdsb.ca/admissions/secondary-registration/#secondary_registration_timeline_01

Catholic School Council (CSC)

The education of our children is a shared responsibility which involves schools, students, families and the church. The OLGC Catholic School Council is an advisory council that strives to promote the building of a school community that strengthens the home/school/parish partnership. The council works together as a community of believers committed to putting the values of our faith into practice in the education of our children.

This year, the OLGC CSC Elections and first meeting for the 2024-2025 school year were held on **Thursday, September 26, 2024**. We are happy to announce our new council for 2024-2025.

Co-Chairs
Secretary
Treasurer
Parish Representative
Teacher Representative
Non-teaching Representative
Student Representative

Shannon Zabaneh and Trish Kotsalis
Joanna Vitale
Christina Nicolaou
Lena Rolo-Gerow
Kelly Wagstaff
Julie Hunter
Andy An

Voting members

M. Follegati
S. Ryan Coe
J. Troiano
S. Beevis
S. Rossi
C. Vickers
E. Martinez
T. Mallouros
A. Puma
L. Richards
A. McKay
M. Mendes



We look forward to working in partnership with our parents to provide what is needed for our children at OLGC such as hot lunches, technology, equipment, events, spirit wear etc. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer by signing up at www.signupgenius.com Please look to our school website for information on meeting dates for the year.

Halloween

With the arrival of October, the thought of Hallowe'en comes to mind as we work our way through the month. Students are invited to dress up on Thursday, October 31, 2024. Please keep in mind that costumes need to be



appropriate for a Catholic elementary school and not be offensive to others. Costumes such as scary clowns are to be avoided as it may frighten some of our students. Students are reminded that weapons/ accessories that belong to their costume, need to be kept at home. We are thrilled to announce that we will be holding a **Monster Mash Halloween Dance-a-thon** to raise money for our school for chrome books and events. Please look to more information coming your way!



As Catholics, Halloween and its back-to-back feast days, All Saint's Day and All Soul's Day, mean more than talking about our favorite saints who lived in another time and another place. It's also an opportunity to talk about what's needed for holiness now. Please follow these guidelines when preparing to send your child to school on October 31st.

NO weapons, objects, or accessories which may be harmful to others

Students may wear costumes, Halloween colours or appropriate dress to school on Halloween

Parents, please refrain from sending any treats to school that day. Our staff has planned fun activities and things to share with students on this day. Hopefully they will get a share of treats if you plan to go out that evening. Thank you!

Student Council and Luke 4:18

We are happy to announce that we have our official OLGC Student Council after our Intermediate student voting in September! The executive members are: Andy A., Federica O., Cheryl O., Sergio D., and Ivars K. We also have class reps and subs from grades 7 and 8 who will help with our events and fundraisers this school year.

The Student Council is running our first food and toiletry drive for Thanksgiving in support of the EG and Holland Landing Pantry, beginning September 30th until October 10th, 2024.

Starting October 7th, the Student Council will be selling Terra Cotta cookies for Halloween. The first \$500 of the proceeds will go to Plant a Tree Canada on behalf of our Eco Club. All funds raised beyond this amount will go directly to school necessities. Cookies can be pre-ordered online on School Day from October 7th until October 20th. The cookies will be distributed to students who pre-ordered on Halloween Day. Information on pricing is to follow and also to be posted on both Instagram, Twitter and on School Day.



Beginning October 15th, the Student Council is leading a Spook-tacular pumpkin decorating event for all students from grades JK to 8. A HUGE THANK YOU to our CSC for donating all pumpkins for this amazing event!



Lastly, we are pleased to announce the York Catholic District School Board's first Annual Loonie/Toonie Civvies Day Fundraiser in support of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on October 17, 2024. The student council has taken the initiative to promote this day by asking everyone who can support to bring in a loonie or a toonie and wear their most comfortable and favorite PAJAMAS that day. This event will raise funds to provide more equitable access and responsive service to students and families experiencing financial distress, with the goal of increasing regular/compulsory school attendance in pursuit of overall academic achievement.

We hope you will join us in a message of love and compassion for those in need within our YCDSB Community through this Loonie/Toonie PAJAMA Day Fundraising Event.

Head Lice/Pediculosis

The York Catholic District School Board recognizes concerns related to pediculosis (head lice) at the school and community level. Pediculosis (head lice) are not a public hazard, as they do not cause illness, but they are a nuisance. To prevent pediculosis (head lice) from becoming a problem at our school we all need to work together. Please check your child's head on a regular basis for lice or nits. If you do find lice or nits, you must contact the office so that we can notify other parents in your child's class to keep a special watch for any signs of head lice. A student's readmission to school is contingent upon the Parent/Guardian submitting a completed and signed "Pediculosis Treatment Form" communicating to the Principal that treatment for pediculosis (head lice) has been administered. More information on the identification, treatment and prevention of pediculosis (head lice) can be found from Toronto Public Health www.toronto.ca/health and the Canadian Pediatric Society at https://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/head_lice. A hard copy of the information may be provided by the Principal if requested by the Parent/Guardian.

Student Pick Up during School Day

We understand that situations arise where students need to be picked up during the school day. Please keep in mind that during recesses and at the end of the day, it may be more difficult for pick up. Please write a note to your child's teacher indicating the date and time that you will be picking them up so that the teacher can send them to the office in time for pick up. Recess hours are **10:10-10:25 am, 12:05-12:45pm and 2:05-2:20pm**. Students are outdoors and cannot be called in to be picked up. Please also be mindful that it is quite busy at the end of the day and so pick up after 3:00pm can be disruptive. If you can schedule pick up around these times, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Date	Upcoming Events
October 8	Cross Country Meet (Gr.4-8) at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area
October 10	Thanksgiving Mass in the gym 10:45 (K-3) and 1:00pm (4-8)
October 14	Thanksgiving Day – No School
October 17	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty ~ Loonie/Toonie PAJAMA DAY
October 18	York Region Public Health Vaccination Clinic (Gr.7/8)
October 21	PA Day - No School
October 24	Catholic School Council Meeting 6:30pm in the library
October 31	Halloween Monster Mash Danceathon

You may also visit us at <https://olgc.ycdsb.ca/> for important dates and events listed on the right-hand side under upcoming events.

